FRONTR.0026P   PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Steven J. Hogan, et al.	) Group Art Unit 2642
Appl. No.	:	Unknown 10|619067	)
Filed	:	Filed Herewith 4-1-03	)
For	:	**CALL PROCESSING RATE QUOTE SYSTEM AND METHOD** (As Amended)	))))
Examiner	:	Unknown	)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Box PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is in association with the continuation patent application filed herewith for the above-referenced application.

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE TITLE:

Please change the title to read:

CALL PROCESSING RATE QUOTE SYSTEM AND METHOD

Appl. No.   :   Unknown
Filed   :   Filed Herewith

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following text prior to the Background Section.

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Number_____, serial number 09/912,409 filed July 23, 2001, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Number 6,279,038, serial number 09/198,058 filed November 19, 1998, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Number 6,263,372, serial number 09/111,618, filed July 7, 1998, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent No. 5,799,156 serial number 08,421,827, filed April 13, 1995, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent No. 5,590,181 serial number 08/136,211, filed October 15, 1993.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-36 and add the following new claims.

1. (New) A method for processing a calling card call from a caller to determine the rate associated with the call:

receiving a called number;

receiving a caller identifier;

generating at an operator module, a request for a rate quote;

sending the request for rate quote to a rating system, wherein the rate quote module:

    performs a database look-up based on the called number and the caller identifier;

    generates a rate quote;

sends the rate quote to the operator module.

2. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the database look-up is also based on time and date information.

3. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the request for a rate quote comprises a request to assign a rate to the call.

4. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the caller identifier comprises rate information assigned to a caller's network access number.

5. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein, for non-postalized rates, the rating system computes the distance using vertical and horizontal coordinates of an originating location and a location of the called number.

6. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the rate system assigns a single rate to all calls and the rate is cost per time unit.

7. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the rate comprises a cost per call.

REMARKS

Applicants request cancellation of the identified claims and entry of new claims.

Appl. No.   :   Unknown
Filed   :   Filed Herewith

SUMMARY

If any matters remain outstanding, the Examiner is invited to contact the

undersigned by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 7/11/03   By: *C. Miller*

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